OUR NEWEST CHURCH IN KANSAS — GORHAM COMMUNITY

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

JUNE 1953

In Memory

Word has been received of the death of the Rev. Mr. Wm. A. Roberts at the Bloomington, Indiana Hospital on Wednesday, May 13. Mr. Roberts served the Smith Center Church until last August when he left for a vacation trip to visit his son in Bloomington. While vacationing he suffered a stroke from which he never fully recovered. Mr. Roberts was 66 years of age and had served churches of our fellowship in the Inter-mountain area and at Lawton, Oklahoma before coming to Kansas. He also served the Universalist Church at Junction City. Mrs. Lottie Roberts, his widow, will continue to live with her son at 414 E. 9th St., in Bloomington. The funeral services were conducted by Simon E. Bennett, Superintendent of the Indiana Conference and Rev. Robert Nagle, minister at the student center at Indiana University.

Staff Summer Schedule

Summer always starts with a bang, with two weeks at Camp Wa-Shun-Ga. Mrs. Rymph and Miss Bloomer give full time to the camp and Dr. Rymph is in and out. During that period, some much needed plastering and painting is scheduled to be done at the Conference Office, 923 Kansas Avenue.

Following the P.F. Officers' Planning Conference scheduled for the State Parsonage June 21 and 22, the Rymph's plan to take two weeks away from the office, spending most of the time with their son Bill and family at the El Charro Motel, Hays, with a week end at the Bob Rymph's at Clinton, Oklahoma.

Miss Bloomer will leave around July 12 to be away five weeks. She plans to vacation in Wisconsin and take in a Missions Institute at Lake Forest College in Illinois July 27-31, enroute back west. August 5-9 she will give leadership at the La Foret Leadership workshop in Colorado, and return to Topeka the middle of August.

* * *

Staff Conference-Midwest Regional

One of the largest attended State Conferences in history was held at Plymouth Church, Wichita, May 5, 6 and 7. Official delegates registered totalled 178 and non-delegates 189 for a total registered of 367. The Plymouth facilities were superb. Dr. Walter H. Upton, Mrs. Variel Brown and their committees deserve high praise for the execution of their well laid plans. With the same committees functioning at Midwest Regional, October 20-22, we know Kansas will be proud. Make plans now to attend these important sessions.

Fall Planning Meeting

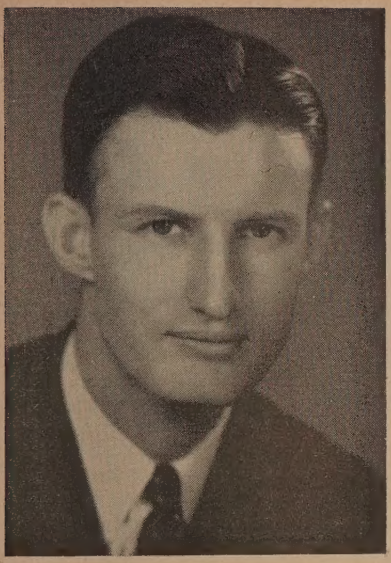
Because of the very fine opportunity Kansas Congregationalists will have in having the Midwest Regional Meeting in our State, the Board of Trustees decided not to hold a Fall Mass Meeting. There will be a Planning Conference for the trustees and major committees in Topeka on September 14.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

Vol. 15 No. 6

Entered as second class matter at Topeka, Kansas, April 12, 1951. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917 authorized January 11, 1923. Issued monthly except July and August at Topeka, Kansas by the Kansas Congregational and Christian Conference.

Editorial and Executive Offices
923 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas
Editors
Supt. and Mrs. L. M. Rymph
Club rate — 50 cents
Single subscription — 75 cents



Gordon N. Jones
New Moderator

Greetings to my more than 18,000 fellow members of Congregational and Christian Churches in Kansas.

In this significant year celebrating the Centennial Birthday of our first Congregational Church (Lawrence Plymouth) in Kansas, I feel especially proud of the honor of being your moderator. Yet, I am also especially humble — as I know all of you are — because our heritage is so rich — our opportunities so many.

Your new moderator has for 36 years been a member of Wichita Fairmount. In this period of time, I have become completely sold on the needs and opportunities of ALL of the participating groups of OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION.

The Kingdom of God, in my judgment is not just the local church, not just the state conference, not just laymen's work, women's department, or P.F. Work, not just Home Missions, not just Council for Social Action, not just Relief and Reconstruction, not just Foreign Missions. The Kingdom of God, I believe, is ALL of these. And the Kingdom will be advanced just so far as you and I advance it in ALL these directions.

If my witness to all of these needs and opportunities is a good one, the glory and praise are His who gives me the power. If my witness is weak, it is because I have failed to catch His Message and Spirit.

May God bless us all as we attempt to find His Way.

Gordon N. Jones

Would You Like a 20% Gain?

If the churches of Kansas reach the 20,000 member mark by the 1953 Conference, it will mean that every church in the state will need to make a 10 per cent net gain in membership. Some will need to do more for a few are in less favorable circumstances. At first one thinks, "But this is impossible!" Frankly, it is not. Only our thinking and attitude make it so. How earnestly have we used every available method to help us in reaching the unreached? Many materials are available from the State Office. There are turn-over charts and new film strips. So far in 1953 ONLY TWO CHURCHES have used these materials. One of these chalked up a 20 per cent gain in total membership and the other a 25 per cent increase. Neither of these churches are in the growing population fringes of our larger cities. There are unchurched people everywhere.

What is needed? Laymen and ministers who are consecrated and willing to use the finest techniques and methods in pursuing the Kingdom's goals.

Hans M. Poppe, Chairman
Evangelism Committee

Frank Korab - Christian Layman

Korab Memorial At Doane

By Lou B. Naylor

Flat on my back in a hospital bed I received a letter from Chester Bidleman, Chairman of our Kansas Congregational Laymen's Fellowship, that a memorial fund has been started in honor of Frank Korab, the memorial to take the form of remodeling and redecorating the chapel at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska; the chapel to be known as the Korab Memorial Chapel. What a beautiful and fitting tribute to a Great Christian soul. Doane College, which Frank loved and served all the days of his life, just as he loved and sought to serve all men of good will who crossed his path — how well I know what was in his heart.

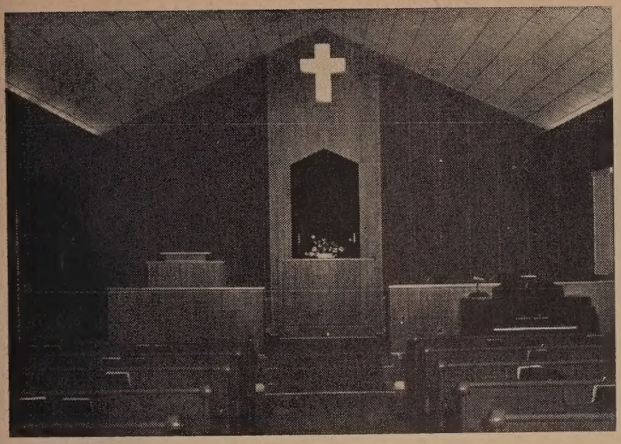
When I think of Frank Korab and Doane and the Congregational tradition, it so ably typifies, there comes to my mind the verses of Grace Noll Crowell entitled, "Country Churches" which he and I read together and agreed were beautiful and appropriate to the Kansas scene.

"Symbols of faith, they lift their reaching spires
Above green groves down many a country way;
And on the wide plains there are altar fires
That light the forms of those who kneel to pray.
Oh, I have seen them stand knee-deep in wheat;
White country churches rising from the sod,
Where men in gratitude for bread to eat,
Have paused and reared their altars to their God.
Symbols they stand of mankind's daily need;
The urgent need to pray, the need to praise.
Without their altars men grow blind indeed;
And grope bewildered down unlighted ways.
The look of God is over every land
Where men have toiled — and where their churches stand."

White country churches standing knee-deep in wheat: — what a challenge they were to Frank and how inspiring his devotion was to us lesser men in whom the flame did not burn so brightly. Well, they can not all very well erect fitting memorials to him and what could be more appropriate than to join together in rebuilding the chapel at Doane to stand as a lasting memorial to his life and service; a place of prayer for young people as they prepare for life in our troubled world.

Twenty-five hundred dollars is all that is needed and most assuredly Congregational men, women and young people of every Kansas Church will be eager to have a part in it.

Checks should be sent to Chester W. Bidleman, Kinsley, Kansas.



Gorham Santuary

THE GORHAM STORY

Seventy-seven years ago a Methodist Circuit Rider, Andrew McRacken, began holding services in the Gorham-Paradise area. He was followed by a long succession of sporadic Protestant activity that included leadership from Congregational (Rev. Aaron Breck - 1900), Presbyterian, Mormon, Episcopalian, and Friends sources. For years Sunday School classes met in the Gorham Public Grade School Building. When Rev. Hans Poppe came to Gorham and Russell in 1950, Sunday School was under the sponsorship of the Gorham's Women's Social Union which is now the Ladies' Aid. They met in a store building where worship services were held under the sponsorship of the Ladies' Aid.

On Jan. 22, 1951 a meeting was held and 5 men were selected to prepare a constitution, later adopted. On May 6. 1951, Dr. L. M. Rymph preached the Founders' Day Sermon in the store building and 101 signed as charter members. Conrad McRacken, grandson of Andrew, became one of the first deacons. In order that the initiative not be lost, the Ladies' Aid, under the leadership of Mrs. Wm. Hampl purchased a Rush County rural school in May and on September 23rd, ground was broken on a well-chosen site. The four adjoining lots were donated by Mrs. Sarah Foster and Mrs. Daisy Aley. During the winter months the size of the purchased building was more than doubled, as members and townsmen built the new church. Only the basement walls and floor, the moving and laying of floor tile were done by contract. Members did the plumbing, wiring, furnace installation, carpentry, etc., by volunteer labor; leaving the funds, all locally raised, to be used entirely for materials. The church is complete, well equipped and debt free. The Russell Church donated their old pews which Gorham men rebuilt and the women refinished, to meet the new specifications. Chancel arrangements were designed by the pastor and built by James Dwinelle, Moderator and Chairman of the Building Committee. The electric organ is a cumulative memorial gift, paid in advance by the Ladies' Aid. The sanctuary and parlor which doubles as a family room and

Gorham Fellowship Hall

class room, seats 140. Indirect lighting, soft colors and natural wood, blend to reflect the spirit of devotion and service that is responsible for the growth of the church. The building is fully insulated, adorned with a cross made by trustee Sam Steward.

The building is well equipped with built-in cupboards that, like the kitchen arrangements, were built by deacon C. E. Parks.

The downstairs is in constant demand for community activities. It is fairly certain that at one time or another every member has shared in the extensive project.

Only one member, Mrs. Louis Sitz, has ever held membership in a Congregational Church before. Most joined by confession of faith.

Dedicatory services, May 10 included a fitting sermon by Dr. Rymph, "This is Your Church" and an evening service of personal dedication in Holy Communion, at which time a stirring meditation was delivered by the Rev. Henry Eden Wright.

Reported by the Rev. Hans Poppe

Perfect Minute Men

An unusual thing happened at the last meeting of The Minute Men of Colonial Church in Prairie Villege. Steaks were prepared for 80 men — 80 men arrived for dinner. Who else can boast of such perfection? The Rev. O. E. Bonny talked to the group.

La Foret

Do not forget to make your reservations for the Third Annual Conference of laymen and women to be held at La Foret, August 23 to 30, 1953.

Among the leaders are Miss Ione Catton, Chicago; Miss Margaret Hargrove, New York City, Dr. and Mrs. Ray Phillips of South Africa.

This is a luxurious week long conference for only $27.50 per person. If you enjoy good food, good climate, a good program and good fellowship — plan to attend.

—Chester W. Bidleman

Mother's Day

Kansas City Rosedale Church was packed with many extra chairs placed to seat worshippers who sat in family units for a special Mother's Day Service arranged by the Rev. O. E. Bonny, minister. During a procession of children, each child placed a garden flower in a special vase as a symbol of gratitude for Mothers. The Junior Choir sang and Mrs. Bonny played the well-known violin solo, "Songs My Mother Taught Me."

Osborne United

This church deserves special recognition as the first church in Kansas to sign the Declaration of Purpose for the Church Loan Fund and the only one to date whose pledge exceeds the asking. Osborne United has matched their pledge to the Congregational Campaign with a like pledge of $1344.00 to the Presbyterian Drive. The Rev. S. Duane Ogden is minister.

Assistant for Walter Graham

Kansas laymen are asked to raise $300 each year for three years to help finance an assistant for Walter Graham, National Executive Director. Contributions may be made thru Chester Bidleman, Kinsley, Kansas.

Julian B. Johnson

Partridge Calls Johnson

The Rev. Julian B. Johnson, just returned from serving as a Chaplain in Korea, will begin leadership at Partridge Community Church on June 15. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of Baylor University and Union Theological Seminary. Before entering the service he served our Congregational Church at Green Farms, Conn.

The Johnson's have two boys, one 9 and one 3. Mrs. Johnson's people live at Kingman, Kansas. Supt. Rymph was present for a reception honoring the Johnsons on June 14.

Manhattan Calls Leader

Beginning work at Manhattan on July 15 are the Rev. and Mrs. William F. Keeney of Auburn, California. Both Mr. and Mrs. Keeney are graduates of Park College. Mr. Keeney graduated from the Pacific School of Religion in 1946 and since then has served churches in Northern California. The Keeney's have four girls ages, 8, 6, 4 and one year. So again the Manhattan parsonage will ring with children's voices.

S.S.S. Worker At Wichita Pilgrim

Returning to Wichita after one year at Iliff School of Theology, the Rev. Robert B. Simpson will assist the Rev. Richard Zoppel at Wichita Pilgrim during June and July. Mr. Simpson is a graduate of Wichita University. After his marriage Aug. 1st to Vivian Graber, of our Wichita Fairmount Church, they will move to New Haven, Conn., where Mr. Simpson will continue his theological studies at Yale.

Ellis Eighty Years Old

Special anniversary services were held at Ellis on May 31. The Rev. and Mrs. John H. Jones who served two pastorates at the Ellis Church, were special guests with Mr. Jones bringing the morning message. A Souvenir Plate on which is etched a picture of the church was sold in memory of the celebration. Following a festival Covered Dish Dinner, a historical pageant, prepared by the Rev. Fred Smith, minister, was presented by a cast of 80 people.

Appreciation Banquet

Kansas City Welborn reports payment of $971.86 toward their parsonage debt retirement from the 15th Annual Appreciation Banquet held April 16. A report by Perc Rayl, banquet chairman, shows 245 gifts of $5.00 each. The event is a traditional money raising project of the church and was the source of payment of the church indebtedness and of the payment thus far on the parsonage indebtedness.

Congregational Kansas

This is the last issue until September. Have a happy summer.

Kansas Women's Department

Mrs. E. C. Garrison, President

In Memory

As evidenceof the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Department Memorial Roll of Honor.

Mrs. Robert Kerr
By Ottawa Women

Mrs. Felix Graber
Mrs. Nelson Smith
Mrs. Ida Morgan
Mrs. Nell Lutz
By Hutchinson Women

Mrs. Harriet Gill
Mrs. Amanda Brinson
Mrs. Fanny Donald
By Leavenworth Salem Cong'l Church

Mrs. Martha Jobe
By Carbondale Women

* * *

S. O. S. For Friendly Service

Mrs. Walter Ives, Friendly Service Secretary, Mt. Hope, Kansas has recently received pages of requests for some extras for Friendly Service. We hope many of our women's groups will find it possible to fill some of these needs this summer. For those who care to sew, we suggest layettes, children's clothes, bed jackets, dresser sets and table covers. She has places to send scrap books, used Christmas cards and religious pictures. Used Clothing — there are dozens of places asking for good clean used clothing. Write Mrs. Ives for further information — the need is great.

All Aboard For The Southland

O.C.W.M., became a living thing as Congregational-Christian folk from North Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Iowa met at Merom, Indiana for a briefing and a get-acquainted meeting. Familiar names in evidence at Merom included the late Rev. Ferry Platt and Dr. Holt. Mrs. Holt, who lives at Merom was visiting her daughter, Mrs. Frances Brewster formerly of Manhattan, Kansas. Holt Hall and other buildings and facilities at Merom are used the year around by many groups.

Discovering O.C.W.M. in Tennessee

Dr. Fred Brownlee was our host at Fisk University. He has almost as many buildings named for him as Carver and Booker T. Washington. An interesting fact about all our negro colleges is that meetings may be held on the campus for all folk, regardless of color. Another sight of interest was the Fisk Chapel with the picture of the original Fisk Jubilee Singers. The graduate department of Social Science is one of the best in the country.

For many years we have been hearing of Pleasant Hill Academy and that was one of my main interests. The academy has now been turned over to the County as its High School. We now have a Craft Shop and Uplands Sanatorium. They are trying to teach the farmers to manage their own farms and to furnish guidance and assistance much as our Home Demonstration Agents are doing in the North. In Chattanooga we visited the site of

our first Brainard Mission. You have all read of the Battle of Missionary Ridge in the Civil War. Well, this is it.

LeMoyne College, Memphis, another of our schools was started immediately following the civil war, first as a grade school to teach freed men to read and write, and is now a four year college.

South Into Alabama

Folk in the "valley" as they choose to call themselves around the Chattahooche river are proud of their churches. Some new — some old, but we do have a large number of really spiritual minded church groups around Lannett, Andusalia and Antioch. Rev. Joe French is justly proud of his new church at Lanett. Several of the executives of Martex Textile Mill are members and we were taken on a tour of the mill. Southern Union College at Wadley, Alabama is worthy of our consideration. Some students work eight hours in the mill and then attend classes held late in the afternoon. An attempt is being made to raise the educational standards of the ministers in many of the churches, as some do not have even an elementary school education. President Flannery and his beautiful young wife are natives of the hill country and have gone back home to try to help their own folk. They are on our Authorized Special list and I do hope our Kansas folk will open their hearts and purses to Southern Union.

On to Cotton Valley School, the County Grade School, where we still pay the salary of Miss Julia Johnson who serves as principal. The students range in ages from 2 to 80! We visited the home of one of the middle-aged students, who had her diploma for perfect attendance hanging on the wall.

A Visit To "Old" New Orleans

We lived on the Campus at Dillard University for two nights and parts of three days. At dinner we were royally entertained by some members of our Central Church — all professional men and women and practically all were Dilliard graduates.

In Georgia and Mississippi

Atlanta is the home of one of our largest negro churches. The First Congregational Church with Rev. McEwen serving as minister and Mr. Graham Jackson, noted concert pianist as their Director of Music. They have celebrated their 85th anniversary. Also Rush Memorial Congregational Church where little Mrs. Rush is Director of Social Service. We spent the week end at Tougaloo, near Jackson, Mississippi.

Delmo Doings

The climax of the entire trip was our visit with the Steward's at Delmo. What a wonderful job they are doing. Mr. Steward took us on a tour of the entire vicinity. I wish you could just look in on one of the Thrift Shops. Again and again I felt like crawling out when they heaped praises on all of us up north for our "Used Clothing." One group is working and renovating the lower floor of an old building to make a Health Center and Clinic. These women come from homes where the year's income is not often more than $600.00. We visited the co-op meeting and listened to our undeserved praise. They "lifted" the offering while we were there and I am pleased to know we will have a very small share in their new clinic.

I wish I could talk on and on, but orders are for just a brief account. I have some colored slides, not too good, but I shall be happy to share them with my friends in Kansas.

Mrs. E. C. Garrison

Kansas Pilgrim Fellowship

Roger Brown, President **Mike Walker, Secretary**

Planning Retreat in Topeka

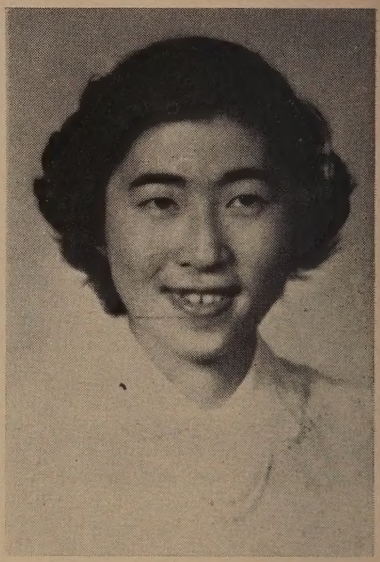
The newly elected state Pilgrim Fellowship officers, Uncle Elmer Erickson, Senior Sponsor, Uncle George Fisk, Junior Hi Sponsor, and the Association Sponsors will meet at the State Parsonage June 21-22 for planning the year ahead. In addition to planning the program the group will spend considerable time learning about the new Three Commission plan adopted at the National Pilgrim Fellowship Council at Claremont. With this change other procedures will be initiated and worked into the state program. Miss Josephine Springs, a student at Tougaloo College in Mississippi, will be the guest speaker. She is working this summer in camps in Colorado, Nebraska and Iowa. Aunt Ruth and Uncle Merle Rymph will be the genial hostess and host.

"Living Our Religion"

This is the title for the third Youth Fellowship Program booklet. It is written by the Rev. Oswell R. Warford, pastor of First Congregational Church, Pocatello, Idaho. An introduction entitled "Thorough Planning Brings Results" gives practical guidance for the meetings. There are fifteen programs outlined which offer good variety for better programs in the local P.F. group. Order from Pilgrim Press at $1.00 per copy.

Parents Night At Lenora

Senior P.F.'ers invited their parents to their last meeting of the year, May 12, for a discussion on "What Parents Expect of Their Teen-Agers". Dave Cutting led the previous meeting on the subject "What Teen-Agers Expect of Their Parents."



Miss Shige Kagawa
Wa-Shun-Ga Guest Leader

Miss Shige Kagawa, niece of Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa of Japan, was a guest leader at both Senior and Junior Hi camps. Shige has been in the United States three years and is attending the Hartford School of Religious Education. She will spend the rest of the summer in Boston.

Central Gives To Korab Memorial

This is a project recently adopted which is being sponsored by the Kansas Layman's Fellowship. The Korab Memorial Fund will be used for the rehabilitation of the Doane College Chapel. If your group is interested send all money direct to Mr. Chester Bidleman at Kinsley, Chairman for the Layman's Fellowship. Central P.F.ers were the first to give to this worthy project.

Around The State

PFers were busy last month with end of school activities and commencement. Anticipation and eagerness to go to WaShunGa were indicated by nearly every group. Two sets of camp slides were kept busy and used for Sunday evening programs.

Many Honors Received

Jim Bass, former State President from Topeka First, received a $100 check from Chi Omega Sorority for eight drawings he submitted for a plaque design. The design is to be used on a fountain which is to be erected on the Kansas University Campus in front of the Chi Omega Chapter house. It will be a memorial to local founders and deceased members. Gary Sick, high school senior at Russell and Western President, reigned as king with Queen Mary Ann Dumler over the junior-senior prom. For outstanding scholastic work Gary has been offered a four-year Navy Scholarship with all expenses paid and a Summerfield Scholarship at Kansas University.

The first George Fulbright Pi Kappa Delta award was presented last month to Wayne Stratton, Topeka Central student at Washburn University. This was for his outstanding work in debate, discussion, extemporaneous speaking and radio broadcasting. Wayne has been an active camper for several years as well as counselor and life guard at WaShunGa.

Invest Your Summer In Reading

Many new books now available from the Conference Office are of interest to active Pilgrim Fellowshippers. These books were presented in the Programs and Projects course at camp. They also give help in planning next year's program. Here are some of the titles for Seniors:

"Where'er the Sun". by Moffett
"Forward through the Ages", Mathews
"A Ship Sets Sail", Fraser
"Great Is The Company", Wood
"Who?" Ashworth

Junior Highs will like some of the following:

"The Church We Cannot See", Morton
"Tumbleweed Series". Hull
"Papi", Hull

There are excellent program guides which will be helpful in planning programs.

Junior Hi Program Aids

The Junior-Hi Kit, No. 10, is the material to be used in working out programs. These sell for $2.50 and can be ordered from Pilgrim Press. The Pilgrim Fellowship Preview (formerly Program News) will be helpful in giving suggestions, listing the current resources, and helps for some specific activities.

Guests At U.S.F.

Manhattan Seniors who graduated this year were guests at the United Student Fellowship picnic meeting at Sunset Park on May 10. The Rev. and Mrs. Keeney, new minister and his wife, were also present. Mr. and Mrs. Duane W. Pulliam, student helpers, will again sponsor the U.S.F. group next year. Congratulations on a job well done.

Christian Action

This is the new action commission name for our combined Missionary Action and Social Action Commissions. The projects to be emphasized under the theme "The Life and Task of the Church Around the World" are: Work with African Churches in Johannesburg; National Leadership Training Fund and German Youth Training Center.

Christian Education

Pauline Bloomer, Director

La Foret Leadership Workshop
August 5-9, 1953

Four full days of inspiration, learning, fellowship and fun await those who attend this workshop for church school teachers and leaders. Special attention will be given this year to techniques in teaching music, worship and visual aids. The major emphasis will be in area of Church History since that is the fall theme in the Pilgrim Series courses. The total cost for adults is $15.50 and for children 3 to 5 years of age $7.00. The Children's Village program directed by Mrs. Myra Auten offers both instruction and child care during the day. Ask your minister or church school superintendent for a copy of the program schedule.

Leadership

The Rev. Royal Gibson, superintendent of the Central South Conference will serve as Dean.

The Rev. Marvin Brown, minister of our Garden City church will serve as chaplain for the four days at matins and vesper services.

Miss Grace Storms, Children's Secretary for our Division of Christian Education, will return to LaForet again this year. She will teach the class on Worship in the Church School for children's groups as well as meet with the entire group on Pilgrim Series usage.

Miss Mary Grubbs, newly ordained minister at Craig, Colorado will teach Music in the Church School. This will be Mary's third year as instructor.

The Rev. Oscar J. Rumpf, Secretary of Adult Work for the Evangelical and Reformed Churches will direct the use of Audio-Visual Aids.

Miss Grace Storms
Secretary of Children's Work

Dr. George Eisenach, professor of Church History at Yankton School of Theology will give two lectures each day to the general group. He will use the Pilgrim Series material as the basis for selecting the content for his presentations. These lectures will give teachers and ministers good background material for their courses during the fall quarter.

The Rev. William "Wim" Meyer minister at Grand Junction, Colorado and former Minister of Youth in the Northern California Conference will discuss work and problems connected with Pilgrim Fellowship groups.

Mrs. C. E. Georgeson, Lenora and **Mrs. Virginia Sears,** Greeley, Colorado will meet with those concerned with

Church School Adminstration. Mrs. Georgeson will work on the small church and Mrs. Sears the large church.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Morris, Russell will help with the fun and fellowship. They will organize activities for the recreation period as well as the informal fellowship period.

Mrs. Myra Auten, Denver will again supervise the Children's Village. Because of her many years experience and her love for children this is an unusual opportunity for children.

Kansas At La Foret Family Camp

As this magazine went to press the following families had sent in registrations for the Family Camp. We will look forward to hearing enthusiastic reports in a later issue. Great Bend: Phillip Felton and Ralph Button; Wichita Pilgrim: Dan Tyson; Wichita Plymouth: Paul Miller; Lawrence: Jack Happy; Topeka Central: Charles Graves; Manhattan: Harry Hicks; Ottawa: Dr. Martin Brockway.

"Day Of The False Dragon"

This is the title of the new book by Miss Alice Huggins, Topeka Central, American Board Missionary for a number of years. This book is suitable for young people 12 to 18 years of age but has appeal for older readers. The price is $2.50 and will be available in the fall.

"The Hidden Heart"

This is the fourth in the series of stewardship films and will be released after September 1 for use in local churches. It is a film for every member of the family and shows how another family helps one of its members to find the real answer to some of life's deepest questions. The Conference has already received some bookings. Send yours in early to get the date you want. There are two available films.

Closing Week Day Service

The Week Day School at Wichita Fairmount concluded the year's work with an evening service May 19. Sixth grade pupils received graduation diplomas from their teachers, Mrs. T. A. Howell, Mrs. F. E. Hoyle and Rev. George Fisk.

"Great Personalities"

This filmstrip for the Summer Quarter is the story of Christian people. Some are well known and others not so well known, who have achieved personal greatness. Guides and discussion material help in the use of this film with your church school.

Russell Clothing Drive

The church school and other members of the church gathered all types of clothing during the period prior to Children's Day. They were sent to Church World Service.

International Friendship Festivals

On May 15 Miss Edna Barstow and Mr. T. Takami of Japan, Miss Emily Yang of China, students at Doane College and the Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Redfield were special guests at Sabetha for an International Family Night. The program was based on the Pilgrim Series All-Church Project.

Families and friends of Central Congregational Church met Sunday afternoon, May 17, for an International Family Festival. There were flags from many countries and a large globe for world emphasis. Guests were invited to wear costumes from other countries. The program directed by Mrs. Charles Graves and Mrs. Paul Hankenson gave children from the various classes an opportunity to share some exhibits and other things they have learned. All were invited to stay for a sacrificial meal. Proceeds were used to send multipurpose food to India.

The Train To Good Church

Once there was a church train which could not get out of the station of Run Down. For some reason no engineer was able to make it go forward. Several had tried and failed. The big driving wheels on the locomotive would just spin and spin, shooting out sparks, while the smoke stack sent out huge clouds of steam and smoke. The train even ran out of coal several times and the passengers had to borrow Mission Coal, a special kind of coal which was supposed to be recommended for trains in trouble.

While the church train was sitting in the station of Run Down many of the younger passengers grew tired of waiting and got off, taking their children with them. They said there were other trains going to the same place with equal accommodations and with the same fare. So why wait? When they left most of the remaining passengers were grey haired. Some were just as happy, for the younger people and their children had irritated them. But most of the remaining older people were sad, for they felt the train wasn't the same as it used to be. A special club was fixed up for the younger people, but they continued to leave, as they seemed to want forward motion more than anything else.

Finally, the passengers found a new engineer who would sit in the cab. They had been without an engineer for a long time and it was good to have one. The new one, named Preacher, was young, full of cheer, well educated in engine running, and he even had a wife who would be the Fireman, and both of them would work for just one salary. He and the passengers agreed that they all wanted to go to just one place — the station of Good Church. Everybody was happy and said: "What a fine young engineer and what a fine wife he has for a Fireman!"

I

Preacher got into the engineer's seat and pulled the throttle. The wheels turned and didn't just spin, either. Slowly the train pulled out of the station of Run Down. Chug! Chug! Chug! Chug! Wheeeooo! A choir — a youth group — a church school. How happy everybody was. This was just like way back when!

Suddenly, something went wrong. The engineer noticed it first. Quickly he checked the steam. All right. He and the Fireman threw on more coal, and more. How they strained, but the train seemed to lose momentum no matter what. Neither of them could possibly know what made the train slow down, as the cause was back in the cars.

It seemed that the train was oddly equipped. For beside each seat was a lever. Each lever was connected to the brakes, so that any passenger could simply sit in the seat, jerk on the lever, and cause the train to slow down. No one lever could stop the train by itself, but if just a few were pulled at once, well, the whole train, locomotive, coal car, baggage car, and the rest — could all be brought to a full stop. This was true even if most of the passengers wanted to keep going.

This is what had happened: When Preacher really had the train going along — chug, chug, chug! a few passengers became alarmed! One said, "We're going too fast. We have never gone this fast before." Another, "This countryside looks strange. I'm not sure this is the route." Another, "The coal bill is going to be tremendous." A lady said, "I think twenty miles an hour is terribly reckless." Several said,

"We need a new engineer. We've got what we wanted out of this one." One man said, "Teasing engineers is my favorite sport. Heh, heh, heh! I'll bet he squirms when I pull the lever this time." Then he gave a big pull and all the others who were unhappy gave a big pull with him. Screech, screech — and the train jerked to a stop. Most of the passengers were very angry, but couldn't do a thing, as just a few could stop the train and keep it stopped, just as they had done back in Run Down.

Back the engineer ran. When he climbed into the cars he saw the trouble instantly. But what could he do? Those few people held tight to their levers and chanted: "We want a new engineer! We want a new engineer! The other passengers wrung their hands and moaned: "O dear, what shall we do? Here we are, out in the middle of the country, it's midnight, and no engineer will come. Besides, it's wrong to put the brakes on Preacher, and just when we were going so well. Still, these are our relatives and we don't want to hurt their feelings."

Preacher said they could get a new engineer if they wanted, but the main trouble was really the brake system. If it could be changed, he said, the levers taken out, and the train stopped only when the majority of passengers wanted it stopped, then all would be well. Otherwise, he would leave and let them have the train as they wanted it.

II

Well, the passengers had a meeting. We won't tell all that was said, but when the meeting was over, it was agreed that the levers should be taken out and the train run by mutual agreement between the engineer and passengers. Some who liked to pull levers and said their grandfathers had pulled them, too, said they were getting out. Some actually did, and everybody else was glad. But the rest were bluffing and stayed on. The passengers saw that getting a new engineer was wrong. Preacher was a fine man and they had come to like and trust him and his Fireman, or Firelady.

Preacher and Fireman got back into the locomotive cab, pulled the throttle, and off they went. Back in the cars, everybody was glad now that the levers were gone. The train had to stop frequently to take on new passengers, and the old passengers hopped off and helped the new ones up the steps. Soon the cars were filled with children and young people. And strangely enough—the train didn't fall apart even at forty miles an hour. And there were more people to pay the coal bill. Everybody was happy and gay.

When we last heard, the train was only a few miles from the station of Good Church. Believe it or not, the gayest people on this train were some who used to enjoy pulling the individual brake levers the most.

—The Rev. Graham R. Hodges,
Ticonderoga, N. Y.
Used by permission.

* * *

Flash!

Senior P.F. is past history with a total attendance of 158. A total of $420.00 was raised in the camp project to go toward the remodeling and refurnishing of the Doane Chapel to be known as the Korab Memorial Chapel. Many agreed that the 1953 camp was one of the most outstanding in history. The Rev. Elmer E. Erickson was director.

As we go to press the Junior Hi camp is in full swing with 213 in attendance.

AT YOUR SERVICE

KANSAS CONGREGATIONAL AND CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

923 Kansas Avenue,

Topeka, Kansas

Conference Centennial Celebration

"Two Thousand More By Fifty Four"

OFFICERS

Moderator, Mr. Gordon Jones
Ass't Moderator, Mrs. W. J. Rudrauff
Superintendent, Rev. L. M. Rymph
Christian Education, Miss Pauline Bloomer
Secretary, Mrs. L. M. Rypmh
Treasurer, Mr. Camden Strain
Attorney, Mr. Roscoe Graves
Auditor, Miss Eva Wolford

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ex-Officil

Moderator, Mr. Gordon Jones
Laymen's Fellowship, Mr. Chester Bidleman
Women's Department, Mrs. E. C. Garrison
Women's Department, Miss Bertha Tindal
Pilgrim Fellowship, Rev. Elmer E. Erickson

1954	1955	1956
Mr. Warren W. Rutter	Rev. Theodore N. Goodale	Rev. Ray Carlton Jones
Rev. Floyd Davidson	Mr. Gordon Jones	Mr. Carl Althaus
Mr. Dan Hopkins	Rev. Hans Poppe	Mr. Levi Zimmerman
		Rev. S. Duane Ogden

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

President, Mrs. E. C. Garrison
Vice Pres., Mrs. Roscoe Graves
Treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Yerkes
Corresponding Sec'y., Miss Bertha Tindal
Recording Secretary, Mrs. George Bicknell

LAYMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

President, Mr. Chester Bidleman
Sec-Treas., Mr. Charles Armstrong

PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

President, Roger Brown
Secretary, Mr. Mike Walker
Senior Sponsor, Rev. Elmer Erickson
Jr. High Sponsor, Rev. George Fisk
Treasurer, Mrs. L. M. Rymph